

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01680 151542Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /073 W
-----151547Z 078746 /53

O R 151430Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5887
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1338

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1680

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV SF WA US UN ZA
SUBJ: BRIEFING OF THE GRZ ON NAMIBIAN TALKS

REF: (A) CAPE TOWN 0969; (B) LUSAKA 1676

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MCHENRY AND DONALD PETTERSON WITH REPRESENTA-
TIVES OF LUSAKA CONTACT GROUP BRIEFED GRZ ON NAMIBIA TALKS JUNE
14. BRIEFING FOLLOWED PATTERN USED IN MAKING PRESENTATION TO SWAPO
(REFTEL B) AND ELICITED SIMILAR REACTION OF DEEP SUSPICION OF
ANYTHING INVOLVING SAG. GRZ OFFICIALS WERE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED
ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA-APPOINTED ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL, ARGUING THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01680 151542Z

HE WOULD BE VORSTER'S MAN, AND, AS LONG AS HE HAD SOUTH AFRICAN
POLICE AND MILITARY AT HIS COMMAND, HE COULD PULL A FAST ONE.
THEY WISHED CONTACT GROUP WELL BUT RESTATED ZAMBIA'S SUPPORT FOR
SWAPO AS THE NAMIBIAN POLITICAL GROUP RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU AND
THE UN. A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF POINTS DISCUSSED BY CONTACT GROUP
WITH SAG WAS REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

1. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY MET WITH ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AARON MILNER (MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS), MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS GREENWOOD SILWIZYA AND UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ISSAAC MANDA TO BRIEF THEM ON PROGRESS MADE IN NAMIBIA TALKS. MCHENRY IN HIS OPENING REMARKS NOTED THAT PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON THE TALKS IN LONDON. HE SET THE STAGE BY RECALLING THAT THE CONTACT GROUP HAD UNDERTAKEN ITS MISSION AFTER HAVING CONSULTED WITH AFRICANS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED, IN THE INTEREST OF BREAKING THE IMPASSE OVER NAMIBIA. HE THEN BRIEFED THE ZAMBIANS ALONG THE LINES OF REFTEL B.

2. MINISTER MILNER IN RESPONSE ASKED WHY THE COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA IS BEING BYPASSED IN FAVOR OF AN ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL FOR NAMIBIA. MCHENRY POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE TWO CONFLICTING VIEWS ON NAMIBIAN LEGALITIES. VORSTER HOLDS THERE IS NO LEGAL BASIS FOR ANYONE TO OVERSEE SAG'S AUTHORITY. THE REST OF THE WORLD HOLDS THAT THE UN HAS SUCH AUTHORITY. OVER THE YEARS THERE HAS BEEN NO GIVE IN THESE TWO POSITIONS, BUT NOW VORSTER IS WILLING TO EXPLORE A MIDDLE GROUND AS A WAY OF AVOIDING CONFLICTING CLAIMS OF LEGALITY. ONE EXAMPLE OF THIS IS THAT VORSTER, WHO REJECTS UN SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF ELECTIONS, IS AGREEABLE TO UN "INVOLVEMENT." THIS SHOULD BE LOOKED AT AS PART OF VORSTER'S EFFORT TO SAVE FACE IN DEALING WITH HIS CONSTITUENCY. IN SUBSTANTIVE TERMS INVOLVEMENT AND UN SUPERVISION AND CONTROL WILL AMOUNT TO ALMOST THE SAME THING.

3. MILNER ASKED HOW CAN THE WORLD COMMUNITY TRUSXDUNZZING VORSTER AGREES TO? WHAT ASSURANCES ARE THERE THAT HE WON'T PULL A FAST ONE? WHY NOT AN ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL CHOSEN BY THE UN SECRETARY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 01680 151542Z

GENERAL? THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL WILL HAVE THE POWER OF VORSTER BEHIND HIM; HOW DO YOU PLAN TO CONTROL VORSTER? ARE THE FIVE PREPARED TO USE FORCE TO KEEP HIM IN LINE? ZAMBIANS HAVE BEEN MADE PROMISES BEFORE; KISSINGER MADE PROMISES ON RHODESIA AND NOTHING HAPPENED. WHAT IS DIFFERENT THIS TIME? UNLESS THE VORSTER MACHINE IN NAMIBIA IS DEFUSED, GRZ CAN'T SEE HOW THE SITUATION EXISTING IN NAMIBIA CAN BE CHANGED. MCHENRY WENT OVER ONCE MORE THE ROLE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN WORKING WITH ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL. HE POINTED OUT THAT VORSTER IS A MAN WHO LOOKS AT PROBLEMS IN TERMS OF HIS INTERESTS, AND IT APPEARS THAT HE NOW RECOGNIZES THAT IT IS IN HIS INTEREST TO MOVE OUT OF NAMIBIA ON THE BASIS OF AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT. HE WAS DETERMINED IN ANY EVENT TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF NAMIBIA (TURNHALLE); CONTACT GROUP NOW HAS DIRECTED HIM TOWARDS AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE FORMULA.

4. UNDER SECRETARY MANDA ASKED IF THE GROUP HAD BRIEFED SWAPO AND IF THE UNDERSTANDING WHICH HAD BEEN REACHED WITH SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BE CONFIRMED BY AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS. MCHENRY SAID THAT

AT AN APPROPRIATE POINT THE SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD HAVE TO HAVE A WRITTEN MANDATE PERMITTING HIM TO PLAY HIS IMPORTANT PART IN DIRECTING NAMIBIA TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE. HE INDICATED SWAPO WAS BEING BRIEFED; HE HAD JUST COME FROM SUCH A BRIEFING.

5. IN CLOSING MILNER THANKED AMBASSADOR MCHENRY FOR THE BRIEFING, SAYING IT WAS MOST USEFUL TO TALK WITH SOMEONE WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE NAMIBIAN TALKS. GRZ WISHED THE CONTACT GROUP WELL BUT COULD NOT AT THIS POINT SAY IT SUPPORTED THE GROUP'S EFFORTS. GRZ' POSITION ON NAMIBIA IS WELL KNOWN--SUPPORT FOR SWAPO AS THE ONE POLITICAL GROUP RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU AND THE UN. HE ASKED IF IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE A PAPER SUMMARIZING THE RESULTS OF CAPE TOWN TALKS THUS FAR.

6. MCHENRY SAID THAT HE RECOGNIZED THE VAST GULF OF DISTRUST SEPARATING THE AFRICANS FROM VORSTER, BASED AS IT IS ON PAST EXPERIENCE. HOWEVER, HE CAUTIONED THAT ONE SHOULD LEARN FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LUSAKA 01680 151542Z

PAST BUT NOT BE ITS CAPTIVE. IF REASONABLE ASSURANCES ARE PROVIDED THAT OFFER A ROAD TO INDEPENDENCE FOR NAMIBIA, THEY SOULD BE ACCEPTED. HE SAID THE POSSIBILITY OF A WRITTEN SUMMARY WOULD BE EXPLORED AFTER THE GROUP HAD BRIEFED THE SECRETARY GENERAL.

COMMENT: THE DEEP SUSPICION SHOWN BY MILNER AND HIS COLLEAGUES OF ANYTHING SOUTH AFRICAN IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO FRUSTRATIONS ARISING FROM DEALING WITH THE RHODESIA PROBLEM OVER THE LAST TWELVE YEARS. DURING THESE YEARS THEY HAVE FELT THEMSELVES MISLEAD DIRECTLY BY SMITH AND BEHIND HIM VORSTER TIME AFTER TIME. HOWEVER, IF A FORMULA ALONG THE LINES OF THAT DEVELOPED BY THE CONTACT GROUP CAN BE SHOWN TO PROVIDE SWAPO WITH A CHANCE TO CAMPAIGN FREELY AND EQUALLY FOR POLITICAL POWER IN NAMIBIA, WE BELIEVE THE GRZ COULD BE BROUGHT AROUND TO LEAN ON SWAPO TO ACCEPT SUCH A FORMULA.

NOTE: THIS TELEGRAM WAS NOT CLEARED BY AMBASSADOR MCHENRY. CLINGERMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION EXCHANGE, NEGOTIATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA01680
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770213-1060
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770655/aaaabvvj.tel
Line Count: 158
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4a20777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAPE TOWN 969, 77 LUSAKA 1676
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2144831
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING OF THE GRZ ON NAMIBIAN TALKS
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA, US, ZA, UK, FR, GE, CA, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4a20777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009